

FDA**Website: Bloomberg****Edition: Online****Date: March 25, 2014****Headline: [Disputing Study, U.S. FDA Says Generics From Abroad Safe](#)**

Synopsis: A top U.S. regulator is discrediting research published a year ago that found impurities in dozens of generic heart drugs made overseas, saying the investigators contaminated the samples during their testing. The study by Preston Mason, a researcher at the Harvard-affiliated Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, was one of the first independent probes into generic heart drugs. Outlined by Mason at a congressional briefing last month, it has been at the center of a growing debate over the quality of copycat drugs as insurers increasingly demand their use to trim medical costs.

Website: Reuters**Edition: Online****Date: March 25, 2014****Headline: [FDA staff review recommends against Novartis heart failure drug](#)**

Synopsis: A drug to treat acute heart failure made by Novartis AG should not be approved because there is insufficient evidence to show it improves symptoms, according to an initial review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The review, posted on the FDA's website on Tuesday, comes two days ahead of a meeting of outside advisors who will make their own recommendation on whether the drug should be approved. The FDA is not obliged to follow the advice of its advisory panels but typically does so.

Clinical Trials**Website: Pharmabiz****Edition: Online****Date: March 26, 2014****Headline: [Maximum number of trials by one investigator may be limited to 3 at a time](#)**

Synopsis: The Health Ministry, as part of further streamlining the clinical sector, may put restrictions on the number of trials that one investigator can take up. However, the authorities would further consult the stakeholders before taking a final decision. The proposal is being made as the follow-up to the recommendations by the Prof Ranjit Roy Chauhury Expert Committee to formulate policy and guidelines for approval of new drugs, clinical trials and banning of drugs. The government had already directed that the number of trials an investigator can undertake should be commensurate with the nature of the trial and facility available with the investigator.

Drug Quality/ Drug Pricing**Publication: Business Standard****Edition: National****Date: March 26, 2014****Headline: [Indian generic drugmakers' woes put new focus on quality over price](#)**

Synopsis: A spate of regulatory warnings for India's generic drug manufacturers will add a new emphasis on the quality of such medicines in an industry long dominated by the ability to deliver

treatments as cheaply as possible, analysts say. In the short term, that is expected to benefit larger global competitors, such as Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, Actavis Plc and Mylan Inc , which will be

Access/ CSR

Publication: The Indian Express

Edition: National

Date: March 26, 2014

Headline: [Pharma firms will get CSR benefits only if they donate medicines to the poor](#)

Synopsis: The Ministry of Corporate Affairs on Tuesday informed the Delhi High Court that pharmaceutical companies would get benefit under corporate social responsibility (CSR) rules if they donate medicines to poor patients afflicted by life threatening or other diseases and cannot afford expensive treatment.

Earlier, the government had said work done in the “normal course of business” would not be eligible for CSR credit, following which the court had asked for clarifications.

Similar report in-

Business Standard- [Pharma firms to get CSR credit if they donate meds: HC told](#)

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: March 26, 2014

Headline: [GE Healthcare-CTSI to build 25 cancer care units](#)

Synopsis: GE Healthcare, an arm of General Electric Co., has forged a strategic alliance with US-based oncology chain Cancer Treatment Services International (CTSI) to build 25 cancer treatment centres across India, jointly investing about \$120 million (around Rs.725 crore) in the project. The initiative primarily aims to detect cancer at an early stage in patients and thus make treatment more affordable by potentially reducing more expensive later-stage treatment costs. It also aims to reach out to patients in remote parts of the country who have limited access to treatment.

Similar report in-

Business Standard- [GE Healthcare, CTSI to develop cancer care network](#)

General Industry

Publication: Moneylife

Edition: Online

Date: March 26, 2014

Headline: [Doctors paid to advice, promote drug companies that fund their research](#)

Synopsis: Research has been seen as less objectionable than other forms of interactions with drug companies, but 10 percent of researchers have multiple ties among the nine companies ProPublica analysed. That raises questions about doctors’ impartiality.

Publication: The Times Of India

Edition: National

Date: March 26, 2014

Headline: [India’s success in polio eradication is a model to the world: Dr Nata Menabde](#)

Synopsis: Tomorrow, India will be given polio-free certification by the World Health Organisation (WHO) Southeast Asia wing. Dr Nata Menabde, WHO representative to India, spoke with Rohit E David on the steps India took to eradicate the deadly polio virus, how the country must guard against it resurfacing - and who deserves credit for this remarkable accomplishment.

Publication: Mint

Edition: National

Date: March 26, 2014

Headline: [WHO says air pollution kills more than AIDS, diabetes](#)

Synopsis: Air pollution killed 7 million people in 2012, more people than AIDS, diabetes and road injuries combined. One in eight deaths worldwide can be attributed to breathing tainted air, making it the world's largest environmental health risk, the Geneva-based World Health Organization (WHO) said in a report on Tuesday, doubling its previous estimates for pollution fatalities.

Similar reports in-

The Hindu- [Seven million deaths caused by air pollution in 2012: WHO](#)

The New Indian Express- [Air Pollution Killed Seven Million People in 2012: WHO](#)